

# HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

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BEDFORD WATERS ADVISORY BOARD  
BEDFORD WEST PUBLIC PARTICIPATION COMMITTEE  
(JOINT MEETING)  
January 14, 2004

**PRESENT (BWAB):** Mr. Don Lowther, Chair  
Mr. Kevin Dean  
Mr. Brad Gibb  
Ms. Deborah Gillis  
Ms. Kate Hadden  
Mr. Rick Hatten  
Mr. Doug Murray  
Mr. Lem Murphy  
Mr. Cedric Pilkington  
Dr. Sankar Ray  
Mr. Lawrence White  
Mr. David Gorsline  
Mr. Brian Hoyle  
Councillor Len Goucher

**PRESENT (BWPPC):** Mr. Tony Tucker, Chair  
Ms. Gloria Lowther  
Mr. Frank Robinson  
Mr. S. Rutherford  
Mr. George Dickey

**REGRETS:** Ms. Elaine Loney  
Mr. William Matheson

**STAFF:** Mr. Angus Schaffenburg, Planner II  
Mr. Paul Morgan, Planner  
Ms. Sheilagh Edmonds, Legislative Assistant

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## 1. **CALL TO ORDER**

At 7:00 p.m. Mr. Don Lowther, Chair, BWAB, called to order the joint meeting of the Bedford West Public Participation Committee and Bedford Waters Advisory Board. He noted that both groups were called together to hear a presentation by the Annapolis Group on a Subwatershed Management Plan.

A document entitled, Bedford West Planning Area Watershed Management Plan had been submitted.

Paul Morgan, Planner, addressed the meeting and advised that representatives of the Annapolis Group will present for review and discussion, a draft terms of reference for a watershed management plan study proposed in association with the Bedford West Master Plan.

Mr. Morgan, referring to the submission, noted that there was some confusion whereby some people thought that it was the study but, in fact, it is a proposal for the study and the reason that the Annapolis Group want to present it to both groups, is to get their input. He added that this document is also being reviewed by a technical committee of internal staff involved with water resource management, and Department of Environment staff.

Mr. David Nantes, representative of Annapolis Group, addressed the members, noting the submitted document is a discussion document and is open to input. He added the team working on this includes SG Acres, Jacques Whitford, and Dalhousie University's Water Recourse Studies. He added that Jacques Whitford will focus on the quality side RE watersheds and the representatives from Dalhousie will make their primary focus on modeling for phosphorus loading on the lakes. SG Acres will look at modeling the lakes and refining the models, and will look at ways of adjusting lake levels, managing stormwater, and making efficient use of the lakes and the structures that are there. Mr. Nantes concluded his remarks by advising that this study is an essential element for Annapolis in helping them complete the planning for Bedford West.

Mr. Benoit Lalonde, representing Jacques Whitford, addressed the meeting and outlined the proposed Subwatershed Management Plan, advising that this Plan will become a reference document for the Stormwater Management Plan. He explained that the Stormwater Management Plan will be much more focused while the Subwatershed Management Plan is more general. Mr. Lalonde's presentation on Subwatershed Management Plan involved the following aspects:

- S Goals and Objectives from different levels of government, i.e. Federal, Provincial, and Municipal.
- S Municipal Planning Strategies
- S Environment Settings - study the data that's available, and also see if there are any

- gaps and make a recommendation to study those gaps; e.g water quality; watercourses and wetlands; vegetation; fauna; groundwater; geology and soil; land use, i.e. what is the present day land use.
- S Conceptual Stormwater Management Plan Facilities - water quality; e.g. don't want to relieve water that will have a detrimental affect to the downstream area of the watershed.
  - S Development Limitations - what are the limitations of the development on the subwatershed.
  - S Protection Measures During Site Development - three types of measures to control the potential for pollution problems - Temporary Measures, Permanent Measures, and a Maintenance Program.

Mr. Lalonde summarized his presentation by advising that, out of the Subwatershed Management Plan they will determine if there is a need for additional studies for critical data which will then be fed into the Stormwater Management Plan.

Mr. Greg Snider, SG Acres addressed the Board and outlined his role in the study, adding that it will be focusing on the stormwater quantity and how the run-off will be handled. An overview of Mr. Snider's presentation focused on:

- S look at the overall watershed area.
- S smaller storms handled on site by local measures and other measures that are of standard practice
- S with larger storms (i.e. 1:100), they will look at using the dams.
- S concerned about protection of areas like Kearney Run and Paper Mill Run
- S studies not done yet, but they have a good understanding of the magnitude of storage they are dealing with.
- S allow the lowering of the water level prior to floods and in the winter - would be looking at the different types of gates that may be implemented and these would be implemented with the repairs to the dams.
- S would be considering all these measures in regard to repairing the dams
- S have to consider how these are going to be operated - how the gates are going to be used and implementing stormwater management for large floods. (elaborated on operational considerations).

Mr. Snider, Mr. Nantes, Mr. Benoit, and Mr. Morgan responded to questions from the members of BWAB and BWPPC.

In response to a question from Dr. Ray concerning working standards of water quality, Mr. Lalonde responded that the subwatershed management plan will give them a tool to show what nutrients and chemical concerns need to be investigated. He pointed out that there were issues that have yet to be determined such as the bedrock geology, soil texture, and metals in the soil. Mr. Lalonde advised that when they reach the level of developing the Stormwater Management Plan the issue of quality will be addressed, adding that they

are not at that level yet, and that they have to study the area first.

In further response, Mr. Nantes advised that, in his view, questions about chemical parameters will be an 'output' of this report i.e. monitoring program. He indicated that, at this time, according to NSDLE there aren't any usable guidelines and they will probably be using CCME guidelines as they apply to those water bodies.

Mr. Cedric Pilkington pointed out that his subcommittee is carrying out a fairly broad range of chemical and microbiological testing, and over a period of a year or so they will have four sets of numbers which, essentially, will establish a baseline of the present condition of the lakes. He suggested to Mr. Nantes that this information may be data they'd be interested in and he would be pleased to share it with them.

Mr. Hattin referred to Dr. Ray's question and indicated that he, too, was concerned that there were no acceptable guidelines for conditions of the water and he suggested that they come back to the Board with what they proposed to be the maximum containment levels prior to them taking some positive action, for discussion. In response, Mr. Nantes advised that he anticipated this aspect would be part of the output of the report. Mr. Nantes noted that the standards aren't readily available, adding that there are national/international standards, but nothing on how to apply them to these lakes.

Mr. Paul Morgan, noting the concerns raised, suggested that it may be a good idea for Board and those involved in the study to meet again when key milestones in the study are reached.

In response to a question on timeline, Mr. Nantes advised that he anticipates a timeframe of six to eight weeks.

At 8:10 p.m. the meeting adjourned.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

At 8:15 p.m. the Chair called to order the regular monthly meeting of the BWAB.

**Welcome of New Member**

Prior to the start of the meeting, the Chair welcomed Mr. David Gorsline, newly appointed member, to the Board.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOVED by Mr. Kevin Dean, seconded by Mr. Cedric Pilkington the minutes of the regular meeting of December 10, 2003 be approved as circulated. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The following items were added to the agenda:

- C Bedford Volunteer of the Year
- C Sackville Rivers Association

**It was agreed** the agenda, as amended, be approved.

**4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES/STATUS SHEET**

**4.1.1 Infilling of Moirs Pond**

Councillor Goucher advised that on January 12<sup>th</sup>. a meeting was held in the office of Hon. Geoff Regan, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans in regard to Moirs Pond. In attendance were Faye Scanlon, Greg Peacock, and Charles Gaudet, Mayor Peter Kelly, Hon. Peter Christie, and himself.

Councillor Goucher advised that Minister Regan gave him a verbal guarantee that within 30 days, he, Minister Christie, and Mayor Kelly would request a meeting with representatives from Sobey's in an attempt to resolve this issue.

**4.1.2 Kearney/Quarry/Paper Mill Dams**

The Chair noted that at the November meeting of the Board, Mr. Lawrence White referred to the report on the Kearney/Quarry/Paper Mill Dams and indicated the recommendation

pertaining to the fish ladders maybe something the Board should look at.

Mr. Lawrence White noted the report seemed to omit the fish ladders.

The Chair indicated that this aspect was not part of the study, and added that the next ladder will be on Kearney Dam and will probably be done by Waterfront Development.

#### **4.1.3 Paper Mill Lake - Watershed Water Quality Monitoring Program**

Mr. Pilkington advised the subcommittee intended to meet once they received the results from the second testing but, unfortunately, they have not received the results due to United Gulf not paying the bill.

The Chair noted that Kevin Riles, of United Gulf, has been away and is due to return on the 19<sup>th</sup>. and once he returns he will contact him.

#### **4.1.4 Storm Water Management: Union Street Area**

Councillor Goucher advised that this matter is now a capital budget item, worth between \$300,000 and \$500,000.

#### **4.1.5 Paper Mill Run**

The Chair advised that he spoke with Mr. Charles Lloyd, HRM Environmental Engineer. Mr. Lloyd has looked at the property and wants to revisit the site with a Board member and resident. The Chair advised that HRM's easement which is between the Morrison property, is where the water seeps out, and when this situation is rectified, the Department of Environment can then go in and take a look at the back of the properties.

#### **4.1.6 Spruce Island**

Mr. Angus Schaffenburg submitted two e-mail messages for the Board's Information, one from Alex Quinn, Development Engineer, and one from Kevin Warner, Development Officer, pertaining to site work and excavation on and near Spruce Island, Bedford.

Councillor Goucher advised that he spoke with a representative from Department of Fisheries and Oceans who told him that tests were done and sent to Marine Science. The tests would determine if any damage had occurred. Referring to the submitted e-mails, the Councillor indicated that DFO appears to be satisfied that nothing has happened that unduly changes the property.

Councillor Goucher noted that North West Community Council has not received a written response from DFO.

In response to questions and concerns raised about grade alteration, Mr. Schaffenburg advised that a grade alternation permit was not issued. He elaborated on the problematic aspects of applying the Grade Alteration By-law to this instance, and noted that the issue of grade alternation was originally designed to protect adjacent properties from their grade being altered. Mr. Schaffenburg also explained that NWCC has asked staff to review Bedford's Grade Alteration By-law, giving consideration to an integrated one for HRM, however, this involves waiting for the completion of the water resource management study.

A discussion ensued and various members expressed concern that the Grade Alteration By-law doesn't seem to provide municipal officials the authority to halt site excavation work such as this. It was suggested that the Board review the by-law with the view of three questions: What can the by-law do? How can it be enforced? And, how can it be strengthened?

Following further discussion, the Chair advised that copies of the Grade Alteration Bylaw would be circulated in the Board's next agenda package, and the matter would be placed on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting.

## **7. REPORTS**

### **7.1 SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**7.1.1 Water Quality Inventory Committee - none**

**7.1.2 Paper Mill Lake Advisory Committee - none**

### **7.2 STAFF REPORTS**

Mr. Schaffenburg advised that staff held a meeting RE Neighbourhood B, Bedford South Wentworth and it is expected their stormwater management plan will be submitted in February. He added that he expects to be able to provide it to the Board in advance of the next meeting.

Sisters of Charity Property - Mr. Schaffenburg noted that staff hasn't received a submission from the developer yet.

## **8. ADDED ITEMS/NEW BUSINESS**

### **8.2 Bedford Volunteer of the Year**

This item was added to the agenda.

The Chair advised that he's been asked to put forward a name from the Board for



Bedford's Volunteer of the Year. He then asked those members of the Board who are residents of Bedford to nominate a Board member and submit the name to him.

### **8.3 Sackville Rivers Association**

This item was added to the agenda.

The Chair advised that Sackville Rivers Association is holding a meeting on Saturday, January 17, 2004 at the Bedford Library on the subject of Parker's Brook. He added that he met with Gary Glidden who is coordinator of the project, and he would like to attend the February meeting to apprise the Board on the Sackville Rivers Association mandate and how they will set up protocols when they look at issues outside the Sackville Rivers Association jurisdiction.

### **8.1 Election of Officers**

Mr. Schaffenburg assumed the Chair to call for nominations for Chairman.

**Moved by Don Lowther, seconded by Doug Murray** that Kevin Dean be nominated for Chair of BWAB.

Mr. Dean declined the nomination.

**Moved by Kevin Dean, seconded by Doug Murray** that Don Lowther be nominated for Chair of BWAB.

Mr. Lowther accepted the nomination.

There being no further nominations, **Motion was Put and Passed**, and Mr. Don Lowther was declared Chair.

Don Lowther then assumed the Chair, and asked for nominations for Vice-Chair of BWAB.

**Moved by Doug Murray, seconded by Kevin Dean** that Lawrence White be nominated for Vice-Chair.

Mr. White accepted the nomination.

There being no further nominations, the **Motion was Put and Passed** and Mr. Lawrence White was declared Vice-Chair.

## **9. NEXT MEETING**

The next regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, February 11, 2004.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Sheilagh Edmonds  
Legislative Assistant